

## 2000 PROFESSIONAL SEMINAR OVERVIEW

The Seventeenth Professional Seminar continued a long tradition of excellence. The speakers, professional members, and guests who attended on March 18-22, 2000, met not only to expand their knowledge of Hemi-Sync but to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of The Monroe Institute's Professional Division. Both The Nancy Penn Center and Roberts Mountain Retreat were pressed into service to accommodate the overflow crowd. The event reaffirmed Robert Monroe's wisdom in gathering together educators, therapists, physicians, and scientists who would develop Hemi-Sync applications based on the proposition that "focused consciousness contains all solutions to the questions of human existence."

After introductions on the first evening, TMI President Laurie Monroe got everyone's visionary juices flowing with a tape on visiting the year 2050. The exercise set the stage for keynote speaker Peter Russell, MA, DCS. The author of *Waking Up in Time* and *From Science to God* launched the Seminar with a truly inspiring address. He argued convincingly that consciousness is as fundamental as space, time, and matter and that its evolution must outpace technological change if humanity is to reap the rewards, rather than the perils, of the twenty-first century. [see: *Topics/Perceptual Studies/Consciousness*]

Next, a controlled study of neurological adaptation to binaural beating, by TMI Research Director F. Holmes "Skip" Atwater, BS, showed statistically significant EEG evidence of Hemi-Sync's effect on cortical arousal. A paper based on this study has been submitted for publication.

Cecile A. Carson, MD, followed with an enthralling account of how she has interwoven conventional medicine, shamanism, Hemi-Sync, and other modalities to offer her patients the best options for health and healing.

Co-investigators Edward O'Malley, PhD, and Mary B. O'Malley, MD, PhD, carefully defined the terrain of sleep disorders as a preface to a progress report on their double-blind study using binaural beats to affect insomnia, now under way at the Norwalk Sleep Disorders Center.

Jonathan H. Holt, MD, shared the sometimes dramatic results of employing Hemi-Sync with surgical and substance-abuse cases and in a hospice setting in the course of his work as a consultation-liaison (medical) psychiatrist.

Mme Dominique De Backer overcame the language barrier to speak on her Synchrotherapy® method, related discoveries in brain-mind research, and using Hemi-Sync to spark breakthroughs for patients with terminal diagnoses.

Anecdotal reporting has consistently indicated that Hemi-Sync is a valuable intervention for attention disorders. Martha S. Lappin, PhD, reviewed research designs for evaluating alternative therapies with emphasis on adapting them to demonstrate Hemi-Sync's impact on ADD/ADHD.

Peter Spiro, BA, MFA, riveted the audience with hard-hitting, dramatic selections from his original poetry as he told of using Hemi-Sync to help troubled youngsters in a New York City alternative high school program awaken to a new curriculum of self-identification and love.

TMI's network of OUTREACH trainers disseminates the Hemi-Sync technology globally. Bob McCulloch, MA, OUTREACH and Registration Department coordinator, gave a complete overview of the Trainer Development and Assessment Program (TDAP) and the OUTREACH Continuing Accreditation (ORCA) program.

Richard Werling, MS, DPA, and Susan Taylor, MA, have both attended Institute graduate programs that access Focus 27 and beyond. Their joint presentation shared the practical results of adventuring in the "outer limits"—for Dick, augmentation of his work as a healer; for Susan, an explosion of creativity as an artist and art teacher.

During a special evening session, participants saw the Ancient Astronauts documentary—which aired on The Learning Channel in late 1999—and got the inside scoop from Skip Atwater on the many challenges of brainmapping in a cave beneath the Sun Pyramid in Mexico.

By Tuesday, everyone was ready to shift into experiential mode. Under the expert guidance of Laurie Monroe and Darlene Miller, PhD, Seminar attendees became the first to sample the Seventh Wave of the *GATEWAY EXPERIENCE*®.

Groundbreaking for the Millennium Booth, which will be erected next to the cabin where Bob wrote his books, and a gala reception at Roberts Mountain Retreat were fitting conclusions to a satisfying Seminar. Singers joined Greg Carroll at the piano, enjoyed a sumptuous buffet, and chatted with old and new friends, ending the Seventeenth Professional Seminar on a note of confident optimism—for the Institute, the Professional Division, and the new century.

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